

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has a contingency plan to manage human cases of Avian Influenza. The plan includes active surveillance, preventive public health measures, clinical management, stockpiling of specific drugs, personal protective equipments and IEC activities.

This plan was operationalized during the outbreak of Avian Flu among poultry in Nundurbar and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra, Surat District of Gujarat and Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh in February-April, 2006. Due to the coordinated action no human case of avian influenza was reported. This contingency plan would hold good for any reoccurrence of bird flu in human population in the country.

#### **Recognizing foreign medical degree holders**

**1116. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indians who got their degree in medicine in Russia are not allowed/recognized to practice in India; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI):** (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act 2001 and the Medical Council of India Screening Test Regulation 2002, any Indian citizen possessing a primary medical qualification awarded by any medical institutions outside India, who is desirous of getting provisional or permanent registration with Medical Council of India or any State medical Council on or after 15th March, 2002 shall have to qualify in the Screening Test conducted by the prescribed authority for this purpose. The primary medical qualification possessed by the Indian students from foreign university must be a recognized medical qualification in that country in which the institution awarding the said qualification is situated.

#### **Physical and mental deformities among the children of Chhattisgarh**

**1117. MS. MEBEL REBELLO:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: